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8 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
9 FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA  
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11 WILLIAM CHAMBERLAIN,

12 Plaintiff,

13 v.

14 FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION,

15 Defendant.  
16

No. 2:24-cv-00966-DAD-CKD (PS)

ORDER

17 Plaintiff William Chamberlain is proceeding pro se and in forma pauperis in this action.  
18 This action is currently in the preliminary screening stage. Pending before the Court are several  
19 motions brought by Plaintiff.

20 First, Plaintiff has filed a motion for sanctions pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure  
21 (“FRCP”) 11. (ECF No. 4.) Plaintiff requests sanctions against Defendant Federal Election  
22 Commission for failing “to comply with its discovery obligations and its dilatory tactics in this  
23 litigation”. Id. at 2. Plaintiff alleges that “[d]espite numerous requests for information, [t]he FEC  
24 has failed to provide the necessary documents for their responses” which warrants sanctions “to  
25 deter future misconduct and to compensate Plaintiff for the unnecessary delays and expenses  
26 incurred as a result of the FEC’s actions.” Id. Plaintiff’s motion for sanctions is premature. The  
27 Court previously dismissed Plaintiff’s original complaint with leave to amend. See ECF No. 3.  
28 The Court has not screened Plaintiff’s first amended complaint given it has yet to be filed by

1 Plaintiff. Accordingly, there is no complaint that has been served, Defendant has not appeared,  
2 and discovery has not been opened. Plaintiff's motion for sanctions is therefore denied without  
3 prejudice as premature.

4 Secondly, Plaintiff has filed a motion for permission to e-file documents. (ECF No. 5.)  
5 Plaintiff requests permission for "efficiency and convenience," "cost-effectiveness" and  
6 "environmental benefits." Id. at 2. The Local Rules are clear that "any person appearing pro se  
7 may not utilize electronic filing except with the permission of the assigned Judge or Magistrate  
8 Judge." See Local Rule 133(b)(2). Plaintiff's motion does not provide good cause for deviance  
9 from this Local Rule. Thus, Plaintiff's motion to e-file is denied with respect to utilizing the  
10 CM/ECF system to file documents. Plaintiff will continue to file paper documents with the Court  
11 through conventional means. However, the Court is amenable to allowing Plaintiff to receive  
12 service of documents by electronic means. Should he wish to take advantage of this, Plaintiff may  
13 file a request with the Clerk of Court to receive service of documents at his email address. If  
14 Plaintiff files such a request, the Clerk is directed to configure Plaintiff's account so that he will  
15 receive immediate email notifications when documents are filed in the case. In doing so, Plaintiff  
16 will consent to receive service of documents electronically and will waive the right to receive  
17 service by first class mail under FRCP 5(b)(2)(D).

18 Lastly, Plaintiff has filed a motion for extension of time to file his first amended  
19 complaint. (ECF No. 6.) Plaintiff requests a one-week extension to Saturday, October 5, 2024, to  
20 file his first amended complaint. Id. at 2. Good cause having been shown, the Court will grant  
21 Plaintiff until, and including, Monday, October 7, 2024, to file his first amended complaint in  
22 compliance with the Court's August 29, 2024.

23 Accordingly, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that:

- 24 1. Plaintiff's motion for sanctions (ECF No. 4) is DENIED without prejudice, as  
25 premature;
- 26 2. Plaintiff's motion for electronic filing (ECF No. 5) is DENIED;
- 27 3. Plaintiff may submit a request to the Clerk of Court to allow for electronic service by  
28 email, as instructed above;

4. Plaintiff's motion for extension of time (ECF No. 6) is GRANTED;
5. Plaintiff shall have until October 7, 2024 to file his first amended complaint in compliance with the Court's August 29, 2024 order (ECF No. 3); and
6. Plaintiff is reminded that failure to file either (a) a first amended complaint within the required timeframe, or (b) a notice of voluntary dismissal of the action, will result in a recommendation that the action be dismissed with prejudice pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 41(b).

Dated: October 7, 2024

  
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CAROLYN K. DELANEY  
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE

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